

NEWS FROM LEGISLATOR ROB CALARCO



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

[Amy Keyes](#)

Office:

(631) 854-1400

-MEDIA RELEASE-

COUNTY TO PRESERVE CRITICAL PATCHOGUE RIVERFRONT LAND

*Legislator Calarco partners with County Executive Bellone to
safeguard drinking water; protect the health of waterways*

Hauppauge, LI – Thursday, September 12, 2013: At the General Meeting of the Legislature today, Legislator Rob Calarco joined with County Executive Steve Bellone to co-sponsor a bill which calls for the acquisition of a piece of environmentally-sensitive riverfront land in Patchogue through the open space component of the Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program. The parcel, located on Pine Neck Avenue, is approximately 63,000 square feet and sits on the southeast bank of the Swan River.

Legislator Calarco spoke of the significant benefits this acquisition will create, “The conservation of this land is a tremendous gain for Patchogue and the surrounding communities. When we preserve parcels like this one along our inland waterways we are acting prudently, not only because we are protecting our drinking water; but because we are helping to restore the health of the Great South Bay.”

Robert Calarco, Legislator, 7th District
90 West Main Street, Suite 2N
Patchogue, New York 11772
Tel: (631) 854-1400
Fax: (631) 854-1403



Calarco went on, “Preserving this property is also positive because it re-directs development to appropriate downtown locations instead of environmentally sensitive areas, such as along the Swan River. Acting to keep our inland waterfront areas in their natural state means when storm events strike our area, we have these assets to protect us – even if that protection is just as simple as absorbing excess rainfall.”

“No one has been a stronger advocate for protecting the Swan River than Legislator Rob Calarco, which is why I am pleased to partner with him in this effort,” Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone said. “I will push for the entire Legislature to support preserving this environmentally critical parcel.”

The bill, Introductory Resolution 1791, will now proceed to the September 30th meeting of the Environmental, Planning and Agriculture Committee. If the Committee releases the bill, it could be passed at the October 8th General Meeting of the Legislature.

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Suffolk County Legislator Rob Calarco represents the 7th Legislative District which includes Patchogue, East Patchogue, North Patchogue, and Medford. Smaller portions of Blue Point, Bellport, Coram, Farmingville, Holtsville, Ronkonkoma, and Fire Island are also included in the District. He is Chairman of the Government Operations, Personnel, Housing & Consumer Protection committee, Vice Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, as well as a member of the Health Committee and the Ways & Means Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature.